GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:605
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2002
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS LIVING BELOW POVERTY LINE
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Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unemployed persons especially those living below the poverty line in the country as on December 31, 2001;

(b) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government to provide employment to them;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL)

a) As per the Survey carried out by National Sample Survey Organisation during 1999-2000, the estimated number of unemployed was of the order of 9 million as per Usual Principal And Subsidiary Status Approach.The number of unemployed persons (out of 9 million) below the poverty line is not maintained. However, total number of persons (out of total population) below the poverty line as estimated by Planning Commission was of the order of 26%.

b), c) & d) The Approach to the Tenth Five Year Plan has recognized the importance of providing gainful high quality employment to the additions to the labour force and it is listed as one of the monitorable objectives for the Tenth Plan and beyond. The growth strategy of the Tenth Plan would lay emphasis on rapid growth of those sectors which are most likely to create high quality employment opportunities and deal with the policy constraints which discourage growth of employment.

Government is also implementing special programmes for eradication of poverty and generation of employment. The major poverty alleviation programmes, which provide employment in the rural areas, are Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana, Jawahar Gram Samriddhi Yojana and Employment Assurance Scheme. In the urban areas, Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana (SJSRY) is in operation since 1.12.97, which also seeks to provide gainful employment to the poor. Prime Minister`s Rozgar Yojana is being implemented as a Central Plan scheme to provide employment opportunities to educated unemployed youths in both rural and urban areas.